

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANAGING CONFIGURATION OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS ON A COMPUTER NETWORK

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system configuration manager provides a graphical user interface that allows a
5 system administrator to easily administer configuration settings for different computer
systems and platforms on a computer network. The system configuration manager of the
present invention allows identifying one system configuration or a settings profile as a
“model system”. Once the model system is defined, other computer systems may be
compared to the model system. Differences between the selected computer systems and
10 the model system are then displayed, and the system configuration manager may be used
to update the selected computer systems with configuration settings specified in the
model system. Cross-platform support is provided by a configuration mapping
mechanism that maps configuration information from one platform to corresponding
configuration information for another platform. The configuration mapping mechanism
15 effectively hides the differences between platforms by translating the configuration
information from a selected platform to corresponding configuration information for the
model system.